Bilateral Co-funding Programs:

U.S.-Russia Bilateral Collaborative Research Partnerships on Cancer

NCI Board of Scientific Advisors 3/28/2016

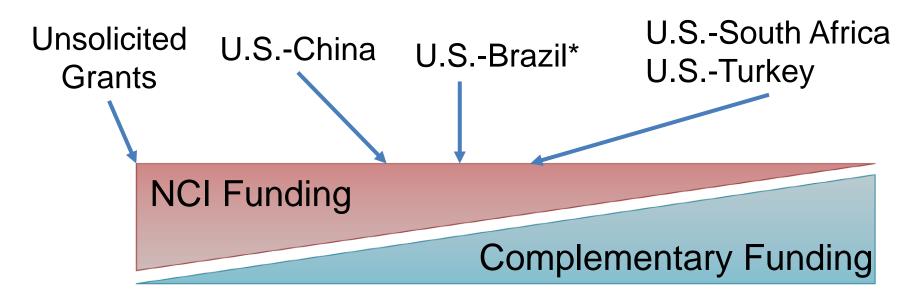


National Institutes

of Health



Recent Jointly Funded Programs



Participating ICs:

NIAID OAR
NIMH FIC
NICHD NIBIB

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U.S.-Russia Bilateral Collaborative Research Partnerships on Cancer

US Department of State Support for Collaborative Work with Russia

- There is enthusiastic support from the Russia Desk at the State Department for NCI pursuing scientific research collaborations in Russia.
- Moreover, this initiative is strongly supported by Ambassador Tefft.



John F. Tefft, US Ambassador to Russia



U.S.-Russia Bilateral Collaborative Research Partnerships on Cancer

Status of Partnership with Russian Basic Research Foundation (RFBR)

- Previous collaboration and FOAs led by OAR (OAR plans to revisit).
- MOU recently signed by Dr. Lowy outlining a collaboration on cancer research.
- NCI Delegation visited RFBR in October, 2015 and negotiated initial list of collaboration topics to operationalize MOU.



U.S.-Russia Bilateral Research Program

Next Three Years (2017-2020):

- 10 awards (R21) at a maximum of \$100,000 direct cost per year/per award for 3 years
- Budget (in total costs) of \$1.85 million/year for three years.
- As was the case in previous bilateral funding opportunities,
 10% of funds will be set aside to support intramural research collaborations.
- Funded awards determined after simultaneous NCI and RFBR review.
 - NCI and RFBR must reach consensus to fund.
 - Only applications with high scores from both agencies will be funded.

U.S.-Russia Bilateral Research Program

Next Three Years (2017-2020): The Team

Proposed topics were fleshed out by DOC staff who will provide continuing input throughout negotiations with RFBR and drafting of an FOA.

| DOC | PD |
|------|----------------------------|
| CGH | Paul Pearlman |
| ОНАМ | Kishor Bhatia |
| DCP | Sharmistha Ghosh-Janjigian |
| DCTD | Igor Kuzmin |
| DCB | Betsy Read-Connole |
| CSSI | Natalie Abrams |
| DCEG | Marianne Henderson |



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U.S.-Russia Bilateral Research Program

Next Three Years (2017-2020): Topics

- 1. Immunotherapy and tumor microenvironment
- 2. Targeted delivery of anticancer drugs
- 3. Precision medicine for cancer
- 4. Bio-imaging of cancer
- 5. Biomedical applications of nanoparticles
- 6. Brain tumor biology
- 7. Epigenetics, proteomics and metabolomics
- 8. Effect of Cancer Therapy on Brain Tumors
- 9. Tumor angiogenesis including fundamental and clinical aspects
- 10. Biomarkers
- 11. Physical sciences and engineering in cancer biology
- 12. Radiation epidemiology





Immunotherapy and the Tumor Microenvironment

- Implication of differences in tumor microenvironment in infection associated and non-infection associated cancers.
- Prophylactic vaccines for cancer prevention
- Immunoprevention
 - Immunotherapy of premalignant lesions
 - Tumor microenvironment during carcinogenesis



Targeted Delivery of Anticancer Drugs & Precision Medicine for Cancer

- Genomics of premalignant lesions
- Biomarkers for risk assessment, detection, diagnosis and prognosis of early cancer
- Precision screening of cancer
- Identification of high-risk cohorts
- Characterization of response to mechanismdirected interventions
- Precision medicine for small cell lung cancer



Bio-Imaging of Cancer

- Identification of high-risk cohorts
- Characterization of response to mechanismdirected interventions



Biomedical Applications of Nanoparticles

- Next generation therapeutic or theranostic nanoparticles
- Tools and devices aimed at monitoring the tumor microenvironment
- Tools and devices capable of penetrating cellular or physiological barriers
- Understanding nanoparticle delivery mechanisms
- Development of nanotechnologies for biomarker discovery or validation
- Tools and devices for molecular in vitro screening of at-risk populations
- Tools and devices for early cancer detection, treatment or monitoring using *in vivo* imaging techniques
- Cancer prevention and control using chemopreventive nutraceuticals
- Integration of modeling and simulation approaches to guide rational nanomaterials design

Epigenetics, Proteomics and Metabolomics

- Identification of high-risk cohorts
- Characterization of response to mechanismdirected interventions
- Systematic and comprehensive investigation of key areas of kinome biology using proteogenomic approaches
- Development and application of targeted proteomic assays for kinases that function in specific signaling networks



A monument to lab rats used for DNA Research. Novosibirsk, Russia.

Biomarkers

- Predictive factors after regrowth of tumors (for brain cancers).
- Effective biomarkers derived from infection related oncogenes (viruses and other infectious agents) for use in screening and monitoring
- Identification and assessment of biomarkers (genetic, molecular, cellular, tissues) that can be utilized in risk assessment, detection, diagnosis and prognosis of early cancer
- Characterization of progressor vs. non-progressor lesions
- Characterization of interval cancers
- Contributions of genetic factors and environment in Russia vs. US
- Biomarker assay development
- Predictive biomarkers for targeted therapy in small cell lung cancer

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Physical Sciences and Engineering in Cancer Biology

- Mechanobiology across molecular, cellular, and tissue levels in basic cancer biology and clinical pathophysiology;
- Probes and new imaging techniques to measure mechanical forces and characterize changes in physical properties of cancer;
- Novel methods for spatio-temporal analysis of cancer genome organization, molecular and cellular crowding, phenotypic variation, and cell population diversity;
- Micro-fluidic devices and novel materials and matrices to model the 3D tumor microenvironment;
- Formulation of predictive, multiscale mathematical models of cancer progression.



National Cancer Institute

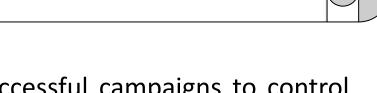
Radiation Epidemiology

- Occupational and Environmental radiation dose reconstruction and assessment
 - Exposure assessment measurements
 - Radiation dose model construction and assessment
 - Radiation dose modeling software development
 - Uncertainty assessment
 - Physical radiation dose measurement
- Health outcome infrastructure development for radiation-related disease
 - Health outcome database development
 - Developing cohort tracing procedures for epidemiology studies
 - Cancer registry development
 - Biological sample archiving, management and storage
- New opportunities for population-based radiation effects studies
 - Identifying new radiation-exposed populations

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"Successful campaigns to control cancers with existing methods and to improve current strategies through research will increasingly depend on a multinational consensus and collaborative work. In that spirit, we intend to take the lead in areas that are within our remits."

~ Harold Varmus and Harpal S. Kumar





